

GERMAN PRIVATES COMPLAIN OF MANY INEFFICIENT OFFICERS

(Correspondence Associated Press.)
FRENCH FRONT, Dec. 11.—German prisoners are complaining of the inefficiency of their junior officers, who are, they say, often placed in command of sections after only four weeks' training. One prisoner told the Associated Press correspondent that the majority of the professional junior officers still fit for service had been transferred to the depots and instruction camps in the interior to train the boys of the 1919 and 1920 classes now called for service. These vacancies in the ranks were filled by youths from the universities and by the sons of merchants and manufacturers.

The number of officers also has been reduced. At the beginning of hostilities each company of German infantry had five, the captain and four lieutenants or second lieutenants. Early in the war the creation of new machine gun, trench mortar, gas and grenadier officers from the infantry battalions brought the number attached to each company down to only three.

Owing to the frequent absence of officers on furlough or for the purpose of following some special instruction course, there are often only two officers, and sometimes one, on duty with a company, even when it is holding the front line trenches. Among the German prisoners taken in recent battles on the French front the number of active officers is very small. Battalion commanders and the commanders of companies are nearly always reserve officers.

COMMISSIONS IN AIR CORPS ONLY THOSE WHO ALREADY ARE FLYERS

The aviation section of the signal corps authorizes the following statement to clear up any misunderstanding which may exist as to the enlistment of men in or under the draft age on account of the recent ruling discontinuing voluntary enlistment as a general practice:

Fliers and balloonists may enlist as heretofore upon passing the examination at the nearest aviation examining board. Their relationship to the draft and to the draft board is seen by the examining board. They themselves are ordered into active service as soon as possible and hold the status of privates, first class, signal enlisted reserve corps, with a salary of \$100 a month, 60 cents daily allowance for food, and quarters provided by the government, until their commissions are issued or they are discharged.

Nonflying officers of draft age or

below are not now being accepted for service, except a limited number of graduates of recognized engineering colleges or others who can qualify as expert engineers; others may, if they wish, have their names placed on file at an examining board.

Aerial observers are not now being accepted whether of draft age or not.

Enlisted men within the draft age may now no longer volunteer at a recruiting office, but may be inducted voluntarily into service by their local board if they are physically fit, sufficiently skilled, and not required to fill the current draft quota. They will be sent to Camp Kelly, Texas, for distribution into trades, training and formation into squadrons, with ranks and salaries running from \$30 a month as privates to \$81 a month as master signal electrician, food and quarters provided by the government.

CHAMP FARMER PATRIOTIC.

FINES FOR BLAST.

(By Associated Press.)
OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 8.—Arnold Martin of Dubois, Neb., nominated by the United States department of agriculture as the world's premier intensive farmer, has offered his services to the national government, through Governor Neville of Nebraska, to go to France to teach intensive farming this spring. His petition will be forwarded to Washington at once. Martin says he can teach French farmers to so handle their land that France will be self-supporting and will not call on America for food stuffs.

(By Associated Press.)
JERSEY CITY, N. J., Jan. 8.—Except for the imposing of a fine on the Lehigh Valley Railroad company, the prosecutions arising out of the ammunition explosion on Black Tom island nearly eighteen months ago were disposed of yesterday. The railroad entered a plea of non-vault to the indictment charging it with manslaughter in connection with the deaths resulting from the explosion, and the amount of the fine will be decided later.

TO PROBE SEDITION.

RECOGNITION ASKED.

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 8.—A special grand jury is to be called by the United States court for the Nebraska district to investigate the activities of enemy aliens, seditious utterances of pro-Germans, Independent Workers of the World propaganda and bootlegging. Assistant United States Attorney Allen yesterday went before Federal Judge Woodrugh and asked that the grand jury be called to make the investigations. The court took the petitions under advisement and will name a date for the calling of the grand jury within the next few days.

The petition also asks that the federal authorities "permit Ottoman Arabs and Hebrews in America to suppress from the state registers in which their declarations as foreigners have been made their status as Turkish subjects."

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ITALIAN AUTHORITIES PREPARE TO SAVE ART TREASURES FROM BOMBS

(By Associated Press.)
LONDON, Jan. 8.—The work of the Italian authorities in preserving Italy's art treasures against bombardment was described by Major Sir F. de Filippi in a lecture before the Royal Academy here recently.

"Italy has been fully alive to her responsibility for the art of which she is the guardian," said the lecturer, "and has spared nothing in her endeavor to protect her cities and their treasures. In Venetian, Lombardian and Tuscan towns I saw whole buildings wrapped up. Out-door monuments are often completely enclosed in what look like big

dog kennels. In many cases new masonry has been put in to strengthen historic structures, and elaborate systems of drainage have been installed to further reinforce the natural strength of the buildings.

"Bags of seaweed, very light and elastic, have been extensively and successfully used in Venice for St. Mark's and other buildings. Bronzes, pictures and small monuments have been removed in colossal packing cases and taken to places of security. The buildings themselves have been sandbagged without and within, and every monument or architectural masterpiece separately shrouded.

"Venice has presented a difficult problem because of the soft soil on which it is built, making heavy masonry protection often impossible. One of the most difficult pieces of protective work done was the removal of Titian's great Assumption, a part of the wall of the Accademia having to be taken down to get it out.

MEN WANTED FOR ENGINEER UNITS OF NATIONAL ARMY; LATEST RULES

To All Officers of the General Recruiting Service:
The secretary of war directs that you be instructed as follows:
(a) That you accept for designated engineer organizations, national army, physically qualified men sent to you with cards signed by representatives of the engineer department (and in case of the forestry regiment by representatives of the forestry bureau also), and men specially selected for this service by recruiting officers (as per booklet herewith), the men so accepted to be sent for enlistment to depots, or to the nearest military posts en route, and thence forwarded to the commanding officers of the engineer organizations designated in the following list:

(b) In localities not visited by an engineer officer, you will accept for the engineers applicants who especially fill the requirements of the enclosed booklet and forward them through depots to the commanding officers of the engineer organizations for which they are specially fitted by previous training in civil life.

(c) These recruits and members of the engineers enlisted reserve corps called into active service will be given only one prophylactic treatment at the recruit depot so that they may quickly go to their organizations, where the prophylactic treatment will be completed.

Married men may be accepted and enlisted who present themselves with cards signed by a representative of the engineer department, but other married applicants must have the approval of regimental commanders for enlistment.

J. T. KERR,
Adjutant General

Advertise in the Daily Bonanza.

FOOD SUBSTITUTES.

(By Associated Press.)

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 8.—Ten thousand substitute food articles have been introduced into Germany since the war, according to a statement made in the Berlin newspapers by Professor Juckenschack, a prominent German food expert. He mentions as the most striking examples of successful substitution the following: Artificial butter, eggs, salad oil, honey, milk, coffee, tea, sugar, tobacco, fish, sausage, cheese and caviar. Some of the substitutes are directly harmful, but others are so good that they will outlive the war and become regular articles of consumption, he asserts.

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